



THE HANFORD SITE

Changes to the Tri-Party Agreement for Retrieving, Treating and Disposing of Hanford Site Waste

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Regulatory Framework for Tri-Party Agreement Proposed Changes

The *Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order* (aka Tri-Party Agreement [TPA]), is a legal agreement between the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Washington State Department of Ecology and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that identifies cleanup actions and schedules, called milestones.

Changes can be made to the TPA with the approval of the three TPA agencies.



Tri-Party Agreement

U.S. Department of Energy
Washington State Department of Ecology
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

The TPA agencies are proposing changes to TPA milestones for retrieving, treating and disposing of certain types of waste at Hanford.

- *Why are these changes being made?*

The current schedule for the work is not feasible. The changes will establish an achievable schedule.

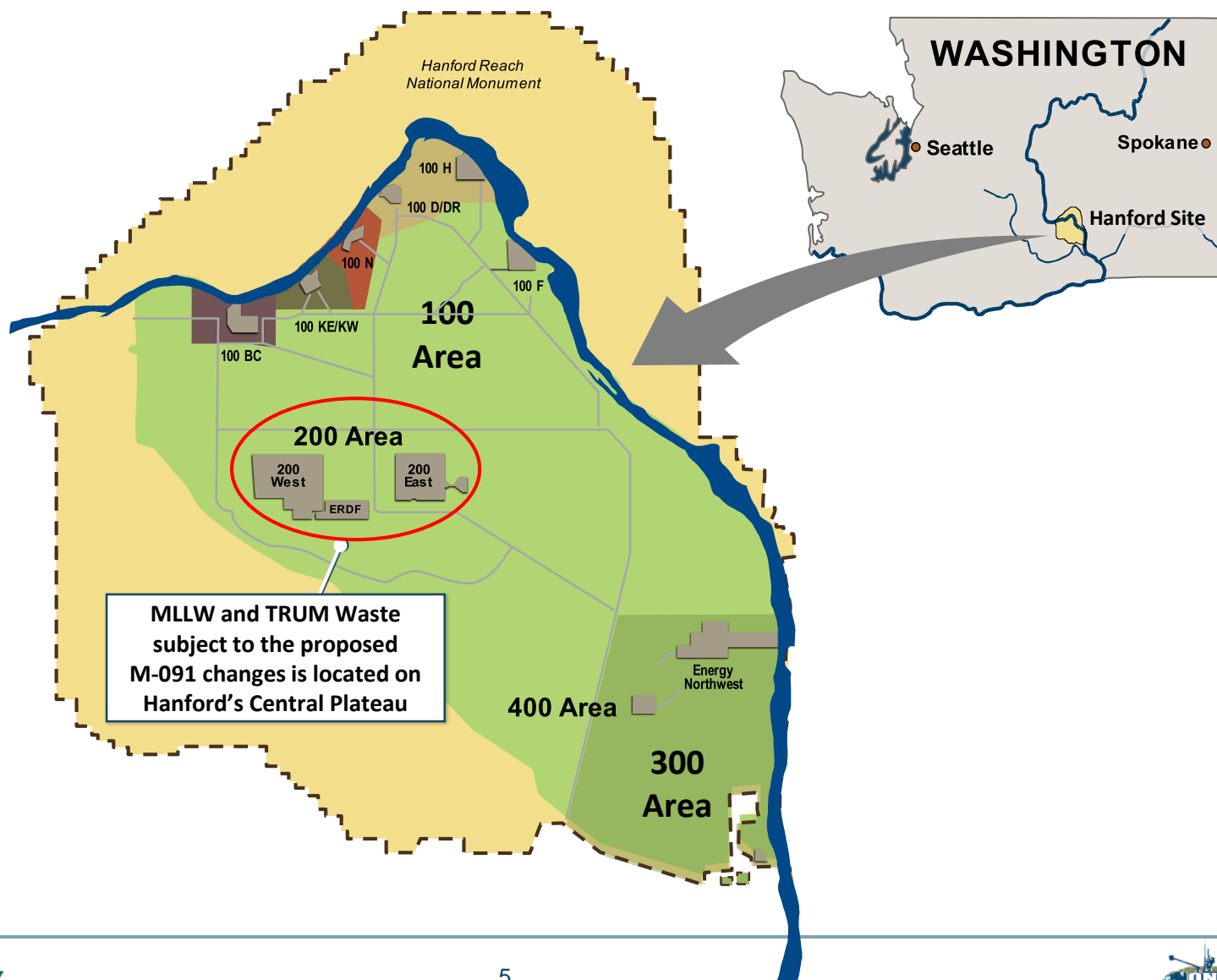
- *What is the main change to the milestones?*

The end date for disposing of all of the waste is being extended from a date in the TPA of “to be determined” to 2050.

- *What would the change in milestones mean for Hanford?*

The responsibility to manage this waste safely remains. The proposed schedule includes due dates for treating and disposing of waste at Hanford or storing a certain type of waste for later shipment for disposal

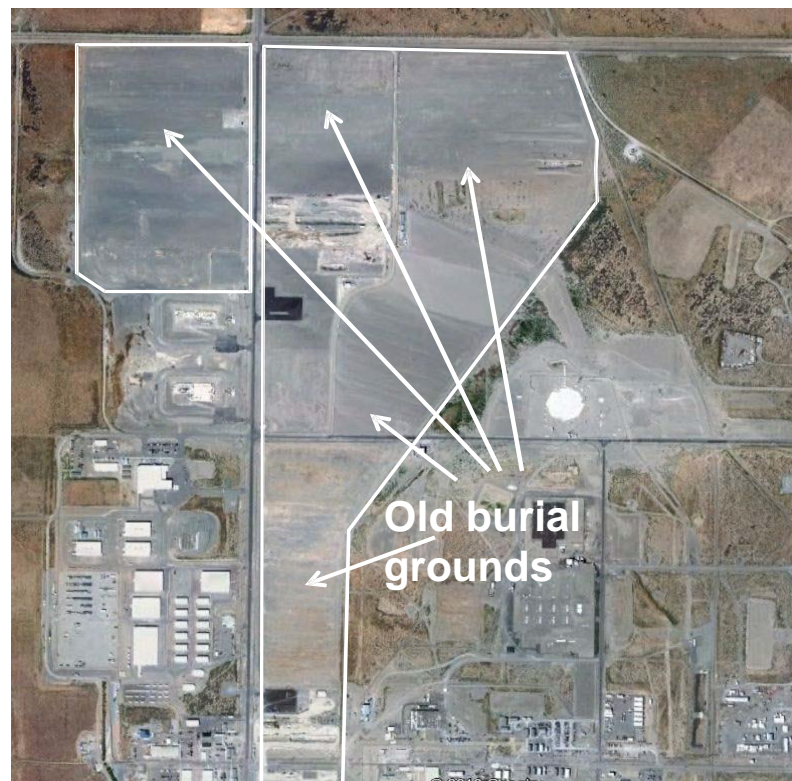
- The original milestone stated that DOE must complete treatment for all mixed low-level waste and transuranic mixed waste in aboveground and retrievable storage at Hanford as of June 30, 2009
- As allowed, DOE may choose to complete certification and shipment of transuranic mixed waste for disposal at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant if the waste meets WIPP waste acceptance criteria



200 West Area



Central Waste Complex



Low-Level Burial Grounds

Repackaging and certification

- DOE continues work to resize and repackage waste to meet WIPP waste acceptance criteria. Target milestones are proposed to complete 280 cubic meters annually in 2021 and 2022.
- DOE will initiate contact-handled waste certification activities by Sept. 30, 2026

Packaged waste is stored at the Central Waste Complex



Shipments of TRUM waste

- TRUM shipments would begin in 2028
- 99% of the TRUM waste would be shipped by 2040
- Remaining TRUM waste shipments completed by 2050
 - The WIPP has committed to support the startup of this effort by initially accepting 10 – 20 Hanford shipments per year.



Proposed Key Milestone Activities (cont.)

Waste retrieval

- Complete the retrieval and designation of contact-handled retrievably stored waste in burial grounds 218-W-4B, 218-W-3A and 218-E-12B by Sept. 30, 2039.
- Complete the retrieval and designation of remote-handled retrievably stored waste (includes the 200 Area caissons) by Sept. 30, 2048.



Past retrieval campaigns at Hanford



Low-level burial grounds

- The proposed TPA changes are a joint proposal by the TPA agencies that establish an achievable schedule for safely retrieving, characterizing and disposing of Hanford's MLLW and TRUM waste.
- The Department looks forward to having the benefit of public input on this proposal after which the agencies will consider input and make revisions as appropriate

- 45-day public comment period began on April 26 and is open through June 23
- Please submit comments by June 23 to M-091@rl.gov (preferred) or in writing to:



Attn: Jennifer Colborn, HMIS
P.O. Box 450, H6-60
Richland, WA 99352

- After considering public comments, the TPA agencies will finalize and approve any milestone changes

Questions?

The Hanford Reach
White Bluffs Overlooking the Columbia River